Varnavars and the Census.

272. * **MR. KAVIYOOR K. K. KOCHUKUNJU:** Will the Government be pleased to state whether memorials and resolutions of meetings are being submitted to Government by the Varnavars of the different parts of the country, praying that all the sub-divisions of the various sections of the Varnava Community be included under the single name Varnavar and treated as such in the coming Census Report?

MR. A. NARAYANAN TAMPI: Yes.

Minor Irrigation Works.

273. * **MR. C. JEBAMONY NADAR** (*Kalkulam* cum *Vilavankod*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether any new investigation of minor irrigation works in Thuckalay Sub-Division has been made during the year (item No. 360 II Productive Irrigation P. W. D. detailed budget); and

(*b*) if so, the nature of the investigation?

MR. P. J. THOMAS (*Deputy Chief Engineer*): (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Taking level sections, site plans etc. for the preparation of estimates for improvements.

MR. C. JEBAMONY NADAR: May I know the particular items of improvement that were investigated?

MR. P. J. THOMAS: Level sections were taken and survey was conducted.

MR. C. JEBAMONY NADAR: For what purpose?

MR. P. J. THOMAS: For improvements.

MR. C. JEBAMONY NADAR: May I know the name of the tank?

MR. P. J. THOMAS: I cannot say.

MR. C. JEBAMONY NADAR: May I know whether all these are prepared only by the officers of the P. W. D.?

MR. P. J. THOMAS: Yes

MR. C. JEBAMONY NADAR: Are they not receiving their monthly pay?

MR. P. J. THOMAS: They are.

MR. C. JEBAMONY NADAR: Then why should they be paid an amount in excess of their pay?

MR. P. J. THOMAS: It is only the charges incurred on account of the work establishment that are charged to the work.

Export of Palmyra Fibre.

274. * **MR. C. JEBAMONY NADAR:** Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the value of annual export of palmyra fibre from Travancore;

(*b*) the countries to which it is so exported;

(*c*) the purpose for which these countries purchase fibre; and

(*d*) whether Government have investigated the possibility of developing locally cottage industries with this product?

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MR. P. G. NARAYANAN UNNITHAN (*Excise Commissioner*): (*a*) and (*b*) A * statement furnishing the information is laid on the able.

(*c*) It is understood that the fibre in question is mainly utilised for the manufacture of brushes and brooms.

(*d*) No.

MR. C. JEBAMONY NADAR: With reference to the answer to part (d) of the question am I to take it that Government have not investigated it because they think that it is impossible to develop any cottage industry?

PRESIDENT: There is a certain agency already doing something in that direction and Government are helping that agency by procuring orders and so forth. It is open to local enterprise to start the venture and then Government will help them. It is a very promising trade.

Cape Government Hotel.

275. * **MR. C. JEBAMONY NADAR**: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the officer responsible for managing and conducting the Cape Government Hotel;

(*b*) the person responsible for catering;

(*c*) whether the Steward, cooks and other servants receive their monthly pay from the Government;

(*d*) whether all furniture, cutlery and crockery are supplied at the expense of Government;

(*e*) the amount paid by Government as catering expenses during the year 1115;

(*f*) whether Government ascertain the correctness of such bills before payment;

(*g*) the officer responsible for such checking;

(*h*) whether any Brahmin cook is employed;

(*i*) the income derived to Government except room rent from that hotel during 1115;

(*j*) the amount of expenses incurred by Government during the said period; and

(*k*) the total number of visitors to the hotel during the year 1115?

MR. P. J. THOMAS: (*a*) The Steward in charge who is guided by the Sub-Division Officer and Division Officer, Nagercoil.

(*b*) The Steward, Cape Hotel.

(*c*) Yes.

(*d*) Yes.

(*e*) Bh. Rs. 297-5-6.

(*f*) Yes.

* *Vide* Appendix I, page 435.

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Appendix I.

Vide **Answer to Question No. 274.**

Statement showing the value of Palmyra fibre exported from Travancore during 1114 and 1115.

A. *Raw fibre.*

Countries to which exported.		Value. 1114. Rs.	1115. Rs.
British India	...	2,879	1,145
Cochin	...	2,900	1,010
United Kingdom	...	2,295	13,392
Belgium	...	,,	948
Netherlands	...	381	210
United States of America	...	421	5,615
Total	...	8,876	22,320

B. *Prepared fibre.*

		Rs.	Rs.
British India	...	1,10,213	...
Cochin	...	1,055	1,780
United Kingdom	...	1,35,866	4,20,118
Eire	...	1,429	...
Union of South Africa	...	675	...
Canada	...	639	...
Belgium	...	46,256	600
Latvia	...	1,440	450
Norway	...	875	...
Denmark	...	1,300	1,600
Netherlands	...	10,209	2,400
France	...	6,000	1,200
Greece	...	1,822	...
United States of America	...	1,29,176	1,00,002
Total	...	4,46,955	5,28,150

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